

VAAP Commander Promises Pollution-Free Plant

TS-23-71
By JOE GOSSETT

The planned \$130-million modernization program at the Volunteer Army Ammunition Plant here will provide equipment that not only will be pollution-free but will also be less costly to operate, Lt. Col. Deryl A. Sisson, VAAP commander, said Monday.

Sisson was the guest speaker at the Engineers Club's weekly luncheon at Hotel Patten. He was introduced by Francis E. Twiss, program chairman.

Regarding the modernization, the speaker emphasized that "the projects will be built with modern technology to assure that they will be pollution-free, and will actually be making money for the government" because of cheaper operating costs.

He gave a detailed account of pollution control efforts at VAAP since 1966, stating that as a result of these efforts, the plant has an emissions rate that is 20 per cent less than emissions released in the period from 1966 to 1969.

"So we are operating with a minute amount of pollution compared to the highs in that period," he commented.

About \$10 million has already been spent at VAAP on pollution controls, Sisson said, including such items as electrostatic precipitators and Mahon fog filters which eliminate sulphuric acid mist from the atmosphere.

As a result of these instruments now in operation, he pointed out, "nothing comes out except a little steam created in the processing."

Also, Sisson said, a large incineration plant which was found to be emitting a large



—Times Staff Photo by Bob Sherrill.
From left, Francis Twiss, program chairman; Lt. Col. Deryl Sisson, VAAP commander; George Rutledge, club president.

amount of fly ash is no longer in use.

The entire acid facilities at VAAP will be replaced or revamped as part of the modernization program, Sisson said, which will also include replacing 10 "batch-type (TNT construction) lines" with continuous lines.

Contracts for construction of these lines will be awarded next month, he added.

In other business Melvin Wessel invited club members

to his home Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to see his model railroad, which is believed to be the largest such layout in the Greater Chattanooga area.

It was also announced that William A. Toney, field engineer and University of Tennessee Systems representative, Tennessee Industrial Research Advisory Service, has been recommended for full membership in the Engineers Club.